

Spring 2019

News from Oak Hill

The NEWSLETTER of the OAK HILL CEMETERY

New Option for Casket Interment

Early in 2019, a monument was installed along Path #5 in the Montrose section that gives families a new option for casket interments. As you know, Oak Hill has long been rather creative in the development of new casket and cremation spaces using former walk paths and other areas not originally designated for burials. Montrose #5 is another example. The pathway is sufficient for additional casket burials along its axis but there was not enough space, as there is in other pathways, for individual monumenting. The solution is to install a significant new monument



Shared Monument at Montrose #5



Detail by Sebastian Martorana

to be shared by those who are buried along that pathway. As you can see from the picture, the monument is a triangular obelisk with a section on its face for each burial site along the path. The monument itself is grey granite and came from one of the monument dealers, Kline Memorials.

The sections dedicated to individual burial sites are black slate, a softer stone that can be intricately carved into very attractive sculptures. We engaged Sebastian Mortorana, a Baltimore stone artisan, to prepare a sample stone showing various types of carving. The result was an impressive display of craftsmanship showing including the bas relief depiction of Renwick Chapel and its surrounds. Families will work with Sebastian to design and install their own interpretation of memorializing loved ones who are placed along path #5. This new option is another way for Oak Hill to remain an operating cemetery with inventory of burial spaces available for decades to come!

Historic Bigelow Iron Fence Update – Phase One Complete!

We have been writing about the cast iron fence along R Street since 2016 when we first described the origin of the fence and what its condition is after being in place for over 150 years. Needless to say that the overall condition of the fence has not improved over the past three years, with the exception of two panels near the Renwick Chapel. In the fall newsletter we reported that the foundations and stone piers under the fence posts were re-usable and did not have to be replaced in process of restoration. Only the part of the stone piers exposed above grade will have to be replaced which really helped simplify the process.



Bottom rails at Flaherty Iron Works after being dismantled

Phase one restoration on two sections of the fence has extended over the fall and winter. Flaherty Iron Works dismantled the two sections and removed all the pieces to their shop. Each piece was stripped and primed. Eventually the bottom two rails (which are a single piece) were reassembled with the rest of the posts, pickets, and rails on the site. Several challenges were encountered in these processes. The company doing the stripping of the parts realized that the project was much more involved than originally thought.



Bottom rails at Flaherty Iron Works after being dismantled

Multiple treatments were required in order to get the 150 year-old parts to a state that missing and broken parts could be braised back together. New stainless steel parts were fabricated to replace those that have turned completely to rust.

Another challenge was setting new stone on top of the old piers. First the old part of the stone pier had to be cut off at ground level. Then a new piece of stone was set directly above the old and connected with mortar in precisely the right position. The core drilling the old and the new together was done so that they would accept a new stainless steel anchoring rod for the posts. The old and new granite are hard stones but we found that the older stone was the harder of the two. The whole process of getting the stone pier ready to accept the post was difficult and different than was originally planned.

Setting the bottom rails on either side of the restored post was next and, of course, harder than expected. Because of the slight shifts of position of the piers for the posts, the straightened rails were not the exact fit that was needed. Some cutting of the stone piers was necessary to get the rails to sit properly into the pier. Later on the same challenge presented itself when the top rails were reattached to the posts. Who knew the piers would move a

bit in their 150 year-old pasts?

Once the bottom rails were in and the posts set, the pickets and top rails were all reset into place, with each requiring an adjustment to fit properly into the bottom rail of the fence. Each picket was sealed into place with epoxy to set its position and prevent water from accumulating at its base. The large finials were set on the posts and connected to the stainless steel rod that extends through the stone pier and into the ground. The smaller finials were set atop each picket and threaded into place.

The final step is to put the third and final coat of paint on the restored portion of the fence. If you recall earlier articles, we know that the original paint color was a very dark yellowish green. For color purists, the color is Munsell Color 5.5GY /2 as described in the Munsell Color System. For those who are really curious, go to [http://ocean-datacenter.ucsc.edu/PhytoBlog/Images/Munsell_A0\[1\].pdf](http://ocean-datacenter.ucsc.edu/PhytoBlog/Images/Munsell_A0[1].pdf) to get an idea how deep and dark this green really is.



The bottom of a picket before epoxy

Restored post on a new base. Note the slot on the side of the base



Once the paint is applied, our general contractor, Lorton Stone, will collaborate with our Architect, Bell Architects, to develop a complete specification for restoring the remaining 78 panels of the fence. We expect that information shortly and will be communicating with you on the size and scale and cost of the project. Because of its current condition, we believe that restoration of the fence is a high priority for Oak Hill. We will be asking for your support in this very substantial and important project.



Fitting the bottom rail into an existing base



Setting pickets into the restored top and bottom rails

STAFF NEWS



Abraham Mejia with Scott Staples

Abraham Mejia Returns to Oak Hill

Some twenty months after being injured by a delivery truck here at Oak Hill, Abraham Mejia has re-joined the grounds crew staff. A member of the Oak Hill landscape crew for fourteen years, Abraham served as a mainstay on the crew. He enthusiastically joined in the many tasks performed by the landscapers and later took part in some of the drainage repair work, alongside of another stalwart, Rico Araujo. Although it will take some time to work back up to his former capabilities as a groundsman, Abraham has pitched right in with his normal enthusiasm and best efforts at getting the job done.

The return of Abraham Mejia and the addition of Scott Staples to our staff enables the cemetery to step up our ongoing landscape maintenance AND work on the various other tasks necessary to improve storm water drainage,

memorial stone cleaning and repairs and many other maintenance and operating aspects. Over time we hope to make improvements in the timeliness of mowing, clearing leaves, and to re-set some of the memorial stones that have been laid over for one reason or another. Abraham will also be doing some monument cleaning as time and weather permit.

Amanda Gerry joins Oak Hill Staff

Amanda Gerry joins Oak Hill Cemetery as our Development Intern. She is focusing on keeping our social media, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram current with lots of interesting and timely news and facts about Oak Hill. She is a senior at Catholic University majoring in International Business and plans to graduate in the spring.



Amanda Gerry

Spring 2019



OAK HILL CEMETERY

*Historic Preservation
Foundation Newsletter*

OAK HILL CEMETERY

3001 R Street, NW
Washington, DC 20007-2923
Telephone: 202-337-2835
Fax: 202-337-6481
www.oakhillcemeterydc.org
Email: info@oakhillcemeterydc.org

Cemetery Hours

Office and grounds:
9:00 am to 4:30 pm, M - F.
Saturday 11:00 am - 4:00 pm.
Sunday 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm,
(weekends walk-in gate only and no drive-in
accession holidays either) weather permitting.
Please observe rules posted at gate.

Oak Hill Cemetery Historic Preservation Foundation Board

George G. Hill, President
Richard L. Fischer, Vice President
Judi Cochran, Treasurer
Darla Jackson, Secretary
Thomas E. Crocker
Clift Seferlis
David Jackson, Executive Director
Lois Brown, Director of Development and
Administration
Liz Mizell, Director of Development
Communications and Individual Giving

Oak Hill Cemetery Board of Managers

George G. Hill, President
David C. deVicq, Vice President
Loretta Castaldi, Treasurer
Patricia Berl, Secretary
David Jackson, Superintendent



Annual Fund – Annual Report

Oak Hill has been very fortunate over the years to receive financial donations from individuals, foundations and even some companies. In 2018 we took an important step toward more formally thanking and recognizing those who support us with the launch of the Oak Hill Annual Fund.

By using notable individuals and points of interest in naming the Annual Fund levels, it also serves as an educational tool, offering details into various aspects of Oak Hill's history and those who have helped to shape it.

The core of the Annual Fund is the Corcoran Society, which recognizes annual donors of \$1,000 or more with additional benefits and opportunities to enjoy the beauty, programs, and events at Oak Hill. Benefits to Corcoran Society members include private guided tours, advance invitations and priority seating for events and programs at Oak Hill, and even a one-time use of the Renwick Chapel. Background on each level of the Corcoran Society is provided below, and an image of our Annual Fund brochure is presented below.

Renwick Circle (\$10,000+)

James Renwick, Jr., architect of the Smithsonian Building and the original Corcoran Gallery (now the Renwick Gallery) and St. Patrick's in New York City, also designed the iron enclosure and the Gothic Chapel located on the south end of the cemetery's ellipse.

de la Roche Circle (\$5,000)

Captain George F. de la Roche, an accomplished engineer, was tasked with supervising the original plotting and grading of Oak Hill as well as the creation of a grand bank along Rock Creek.

Rock of Dumbarton Circle (\$2,500)

Adjacent to the original Parrot's Woods, the Rock of Dumbarton was another of the original land parcels at the heart of Oak Hill.

Parrot's Woods Circle (\$1,000)

Named for one of the original land parcels comprising Oak Hill.

If you are already a member of our Annual Fund, at any level, thank you for your support of this ambitious new program.

From The President

Oak Hill Cemetery Historic Preservation Foundation

On behalf of the Board, staff and crew, we wish to thank you for your ongoing interest and support of Oak Hill. Our efforts to maintain the beauty and tranquility of Oak Hill are possible in large part because of the generous gifts we receive each year from individuals such as you, as well as foundations and other community partners. Please know that it is deeply appreciated.

When I reflect on the history and incredible beauty of the grounds today, it is easy to understand why William Wilson Corcoran loved the Oak Hill Cemetery and why it's my honor to be charged with its continued success as President.

To ensure that the Historic Preservation Foundation's efforts continue to align with the priorities of the cemetery, the Oak Hill Cemetery Historic Preservation Foundation invested time and effort in 2018 to create the Foundation's first Strategic Plan. It is available for public view, both in print and online. We hope you will take a moment to read it sometime soon at our web-site: www.oakhillcemetery-dc.org.

In 2018, we added more than 70 new burial options, in addition to preserving the integrity and beauty of our garden cemetery. Our next most important project was restoring areas of the cemetery in need of beautification; we are pleased with

the results and hope you will enjoy this on your next visit to Oak Hill.

Our social media efforts and events in 2018 have made new friends for Oak Hill while providing those who already enjoy visiting the cemetery with a platform to share their photos and experiences



with others. If you have not had a chance to visit our new website and/or follow us on social media, please do so when you have the opportunity!

Oak Hill is becoming an increasingly active member of the community. In 2018, we hosted two open presentations on the popular novel "Lincoln in the Bardo" by George Saunders, and our first ever "Dog Day" where many new canine friends enjoyed the grounds at Oak Hill.

Restoration of the Bigelow Iron Fence along R Street continues. In 2019, we will begin looking to expand on our initial efforts and identify the sections of fence that should be restored next. We look forward to keeping you informed as the project comes more into focus and we pursue the eventual restoration of all eighty sections of the fence.

In this, our first-ever Annual Report, we recognize the more than 400 donors who supported us in 2018. You'll also notice the levels of our new annual giving program, The Corcoran Society. We invite you to be among the first to support us in 2019.

With sincere appreciation,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "George G. Hill". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

George G. Hill, President
Oak Hill Cemetery

Report From The Executive Director

by Dave Jackson



Last year was an exciting year at Oak Hill Cemetery. We were very busy at the cemetery and at the Historic Preservation Foundation. Here are some of the highlights in 2018.

DEVELOPMENT

Strategic Plan - In January the boards of the Oak Hill Cemetery and Historic Preservation Foundation met with a facilitator to create a strategic plan for the organization's joint goals and objectives. A copy of the resulting plan is available on our web site. This plan was a first for Oak Hill and really solidified the future efforts of the two complimentary organizations. This is a direct result of the considerable leadership of George Hill who chairs both organizations. Congratulations to both boards for a job well done. Look elsewhere in this report for a progress update on the plan. The activities growing from the plan are to create an inventory

of monuments and their conditions, to update the tree inventory last done in 1998, to update a drainage study done in 2002 and complete Phase One of the Bigelow Iron Fence restoration.

Annual Giving – as you see elsewhere in this report, we have changed our donor recognition to an annual campaign with different levels of recognition for different levels of gifts. By doing so we implementing one of the “best practices” of funding development that will lead to increased donations by an increased number of donors.

COMMUNICATIONS

Web Site and Social Media – we launched a new web site in the

fall that contains more information and a wider variety of information than did our old site. We encourage you to navigate our site at oakhillcemeterydc.org. In addition, Liz Mizell, Director of Development Communications and Individual Giving is keeping our community engaged on by putting a steady stream of



Preparing the pickets to accept the restored finials

Second Phase of Website

We are pleased to announce that we are constructing the second phase of our website. Coming this spring, will be a new addition to our website, an interactive map experience for notable figures and key landmarks of the cemetery grounds. This means that notable figures and key landmarks will be easy to search and then located on the grounds map. We know that some of our visitors only have a limited amount of time to tour our grounds while they are visiting Georgetown, so we are proud to offer this new feature that will help everyone make the most of their time with us!

(continued on page 8)

Executive Director Report (continued from page 7)

information on Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook. Please take time to view these portals for current activities, upcoming events and fun facts about Oak Hill.

PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION

Iron Fence, Phase One – Thanks to a very generous donation, we were able to begin Phase One of the Iron Fence Restoration. Phase One is to restore two sections (of the eighty) of the fence to determine the existing conditions and to determine the methods necessary to dismantle, strip, paint, re-set the base on which each post sits, and re-construct the panels. This was harder than it looked! The project started shortly after Memorial Day and we are yet to finish at year-end. As reported in a newsletter the foundation beneath the posts is in excellent condition and we expect to use them for the restored bases saving thousands of dollars. Difficulties with stripping and re-surfacing the cast iron and weather have caused delays.

GRANTS

NATIONAL SOCIETY OF DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION (NSDAR) – In April the Constitution Chapter of the National Society of Daughters of

the American Revolution dedicated a memorial stone they installed at the grave of Judith Ellen Foster, a significant American Lecturer and lawyer thought to be the first woman who practiced law in Iowa and the fourth woman admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of Iowa. Later in the year we received a grant from NSDAR (sponsored by the Richard Arnold Chapter) to restore the memorial stones on the Page family lot in our Amphitheater Section. William Tyler Page was the author of The American's Creed which is recited at the beginning of every NSDAR meeting all over the world.

EVENTS

Lincoln in the Bardo – we hosted two events based on the recently published novel by George Saunders that is set in Oak Hill Cemetery. An excellent review of the book was done by Trip Slaymaker in April and then we hosted a discussion by Georgetown scholar Adrian Vaugness on “Sin and Salvation in Lincoln in the Bardo” which was his interpretation of several religious aspects in the book. Both events were heavily attended.

Dog Day – as you know, dogs are not permitted in Oak Hill. However, we asked for an exception on October 8th and the Board of Managers agreed. It was a great event with nearly 100 dogs and almost 120 owners attending and having a great time on a nice day in October. This program will be repeated in the spring and fall of coming years.

Tours – we did several tours last year for a variety of groups. To mention a few of these; a group of docents from Tudor Place, volunteers from Renwick Gallery, members of Christ Church, Georgetown touring the gravesites of church founders, the Young Adults group from Georgetown Presbyterian Church, Ford's Theatre volunteers, and the Charles Wyatt, a descendent of the Van Ness family, who gathered his children and grandchildren from Texas, Florida, and other US cities in October to tour DC sites that are important to their clan, including Oak Hill Cemetery.



Contributors to Oak Hill

Oak Hill Cemetery and the Oak Hill Cemetery Historic Preservation Foundation
are honored to recognize all of the individuals, foundations and companies
who generously support our important work. Below is a list of Annual Fund donors whose gifts
were received from January 1 – December 31, 2018.

The Corcoran Society



Our leadership giving society is named for William W. Corcoran, the man whose generous gift

of land made the Oak Hill Cemetery possible. The Corcoran Society recognizes those individuals, companies and foundations that demonstrate their commitment and enthusiasm for Oak Hill with an annual gift of \$1,000 or more.

the original plotting and grading of Oak Hill as well as the creation of a grand bank along Rock Creek.

Anonymous
Mr. L. Richard Fischer
The Sachiko Kuno Foundation

Rock of Dumbarton Circle (\$2,500+)

Adjacent to the original Parrot's Woods, the Rock of Dumbarton was another of the original land parcels at the heart of Oak Hill.

Ms. Judith B. Cochran
Mrs. Mabel H. Hospital

Renwick Circle (\$10,000+)

James Renwick, Jr., architect of the Smithsonian Building and the original Corcoran Gallery (now the Renwick Gallery) and St. Patrick's in New York City, also designed the iron enclosure and the Gothic Chapel located on the south end of the cemetery's ellipse.

Mrs. David Springer Brown
Mr. and Mrs. Mario H. Boiardi
Mr. Joseph Kaempfer and
Ms. Georgina Warner

The Marion Goldin Trust
The Raymond Machesney Trust
The Dorothy Jane Church Zaring Estate

de la Roche Circle (\$5,000+)

Captain George F. de la Roche, a master engineer, was tasked with supervising

Parrot's Woods Circle (\$1,000+)

Named for one of the original land parcels comprising Oak Hill.

Mr. Patrick H. Allen
Mrs. Greta Arnold
Mrs. Patricia Berl
Ms. Martha Carr
Mr. David W. Douglas
Mrs. Elizabeth W. Edgeworth
Mrs. Madeline English
Mrs. Katharine K. Farr
Mr. Ronald E. and Mrs. Judith S. Fox
Mrs. Susanne and Mr. Richard Francoeur
Mrs. Shiva Ghafoorian*
Mr. and Mrs. H. Corbin Gwaltney
Mrs. Ann Thoron and Mr. Christopher Hale
Mr. George G. Hill
Ms. Elizabeth Ann Hylton
Mr. John F. Jameson
General James L. and Mrs. Diane Jones
Mr. Edward H. Lieberman
Mr. Russell and Mrs. Miriam H. Lindner

Mr. I. Guyman Martin, III
Mr. Robert E. and Mrs. Mary K. McCullough
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Melrod
Ms. Susan E. Parker
Mr. and Mrs. James Peoples
Honorable and Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, IV
Mr. and Mrs. Roger W. Sant
Ms. Aniko Gaal Schott
Mr. Allen C. Shepard, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. John B. Slidell
Mr. Thomas L. Stapleton
Ms. Michele N. Tanaka
Mr. William and Mrs. Mary Eleanor Piez
Mr. W. Reid and Mary M. Thompson
Mrs. Virlinda G. Walsh
Mr. Richard Wathen
Mrs. Margaret M. Weaver

Ms. Peggy M. Wood*
The Davis Family, LLC*
The Donohue Family Foundation, Inc
The Green Hill Foundation
Joseph Gawler's Sons Inc.
National Society Daughters of the American Revolution
The Neel Foundation
The Robert N. Alfandre Foundation*
The Tobin Foundation

Supporters (\$500-\$999)

Mr. Peter J. Albert and Ms. Charlotte Mahoney
Mr. and Mrs. Brendan Burke
Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Calvert
Mr. Scott B. Cannon
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Cantacuzene
Mr. Michael C. Copperthite
Ms. Kathleen Correll
Mr. and Mrs. Jutta G. Dannemann*
Mr. Robert and Mrs. Ingrid

Davis, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Terry Eakin, III
Ms. Anne L. Emmet
Mr. Ralph and Mrs. Barbara Ferrara
Mr. and Mrs. George W. Ford, II*
Mr. Whit and Mrs. Amy Ford*
Honorable and Mrs. Stanley S. Harris
Mr. Julio E. Heurtematte, Jr.
Ms. Helen L. Horrocks
Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Hume
Mr. James M. Johnston, III
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Israel*
Mr. Stephen M. Jarboe
Col. Patricia Jernigan, (Ret)
Dr. Anne League
Mr. William J. Levy
Mr. Peter Albert and Mrs. Charlotte Mahoney
Mr. Daniel H. Margolis
Ms. Aileen J. Mason
Mrs. Carole Anne McLellan
Mr. Glenn A. Metzendorf
Ms. Molly Moynihan
Mr. Charles Neuhauser, Jr.
Mr. Neal Parker and Mrs. Margaret Mihori
Mrs. Mary Charlotte Parr
Ms. Lynn C. Rhomberg
Mrs. Francine S. Robinson
Mr. and Mrs. James Rossie
The Honorable Carol Schwartz
Mr. Samuel Thoron
Mr. William E. Timmons
Mr. and Mrs. Mallory Walker
Mr. Robert Weinberg
Mr. and Mrs. Eric Wolman

Dent Place, Georgetown Condominium
The Joan H. Harris Trust
MJ Valet, LLC
The Ryuji Ueno Foundation

Contributors to Oak Hill *continued*

Friends (\$499 and under)

Mr. David C. Acheson
 Ms. Eleanor Acheson
 Dr. Paul M. Aebersold
 Mr. Walter S. Albano
 Mr. and Mrs. Carl A. Anderson
 Dr. Catherine R. Andrews
 Reverend and Mrs. Mark S. Anschutz
 Ms. Marion G. Arkin
 Mr. Robert W. Pitz and Mrs. Carol E. Armes
 Mr. and Mrs. Richard P. Armes*
 Mr. Dale and Mrs. Linda Ashdown
 Ms. Indira L. Aslan
 Ms. Merribe S. Ayers
 Mr. Laurence V. Baldwin*
 Dr. Catherine N. Ball*
 Mr. Bill and Mrs. Cassie Barnard
 Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Barnes
 Mrs. Alexa B. Barnett
 Mr. Peter C. Barr
 Ms. Amy Barrington
 Ms. Kathy Barsness
 Mrs. Adrian D. Bellinger
 Mrs. Laura Haines Belman
 Mrs. Mary T. Bennett*
 Mrs. Marguerite H. Benson
 Ms. Christian Beres
 Mr. Albert and Mrs. Foree Biddle
 Mrs. Edith S. Bingham
 Mr. and Mrs. James P. Blair
 Mr. Jonathan Blake and Mrs. Elizabeth Shriver
 Ms. Gisela Block
 Ms. Sigrid Block*
 Mr. Walter M. Boggs
 Mr. William R. Boling
 Mr. John Bolton
 Mrs. Elizabeth Bonner*
 Ms. Caroline B. Bradford
 Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Bradley
 Mr. George and Mrs. Laine Brainard
 Ms. Margaret A. Brennan
 Mr. and Mrs. Dean Brenneman
 Mr. Christopher L. Brown*
 Mrs. Ruth H. Buchanan

Ms. Emily Bujold
 Ms. Sally Burningham
 Mr. Charles E. Burr
 Mr. Peter T. Burr
 Mr. James M. Cannon, IV
 Mrs. Margaret Cantlin-Kern*
 Ms. Everette Caperton Stubbs
 Mr. Anthony Caputa
 Dr. Allen Carden
 Mr. Michael J. Carow*
 Ms. Page Carr
 Mr. and Mrs. John Carter
 Mr. Kevin Carter
 Mr. Heath B. Chamberlain
 Reverend Timothy Cole
 Ms. Patricia Destiny Clark
 Mr. Nathaniel S. Clifford
 Mrs. Katherine Guthe Coffey
 Mrs. Mary M. Coleman
 Mrs. Cissel Gott Collins
 Msgr. John R. and Mrs. Hisae Coon*
 Mrs. Ann D. Cornell
 Ms. Yolanda E. Corro
 Mrs. Hannah C. Cox
 Mr. David M. Coyne
 Ms. Theresa Crawford
 Mr. and Mrs. Paul Cromelin
 Ms. Helen Crompecker
 Mr. German P. Culver, Jr.*
 Mr. William J. and Mrs. Helen Curtin
 Ms. Esther D'Amico
 Mr. Robert L. Dale
 Ms. Catherine E. Dalpino
 Mr. John H. and Mrs. Judith Damewood
 Ms. Susan E. Darcey
 Ms. Holley Darden
 Pastor Brett and Mrs. Juliet Davis
 Mr. and Mrs. Joe Davis
 Mrs. Patricia and Mr. Charles F. Davis, Jr.
 Mrs. Calvin Davison
 Mr. Mark C. and Mrs. Laura L. Dawson
 Mr. David C. de Vicq
 Ms. Harriet B. DeLong
 Mr. Michael Dever
 Mr. Andrew H. Diem*
 Mr. and Mrs. Charles T. Dodge
 Mr. Michael and Mrs. Lisa

Doyle*
 Mr. Richard C. Dulaney
 Mr. and Mrs. Marta and Martin R. Dunetz
 Mrs. Liza Wilson Durant
 Ms. Eugenia Dutton
 Ms. Anne K. DuVivier*
 Mr. R. Michael Dwyer
 Ms. Ann Laird Edgeworth
 Mrs. Nancy L. Elam
 Mrs. Ana R. Escobar
 Mrs. Suzanne Esenwein
 Mr. Robert Essex
 Ms. Michele Evans
 Ms. Susan Fall**
 Mr. Henry Farrington
 Mr. and Mrs. Reed M. Fawell, III
 Mr. Peter and Mrs. Diana Ferris
 Mr. Thomas J. Fisher
 Mr. and Mrs. James F. Fitzpatrick
 Mr. and Mrs. Steven H. Flajser
 Ms. Catherine Flanagan
 Mr. and Mrs. Richard B. Fleming
 Captin Timothy T. Flynn
 Ms. Mary Ann Foster*
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Freeman
 Mr. and Mrs. Roderick S. French
 Ms. Cary Fuller
 Dr. Jonathan F. Galloway*
 Mr. and Mrs. Charles S. Gardner*
 Ms. Mary D. Garrard
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Gawler
 Ms. Patricia P. Gesell
 Mr. John W. and Mrs. Tammy Gill
 Mr. and Mrs. T. Nicholas Gill
 Mrs. Catherine B. Gleason
 Mr. Robert K. Goldman
 Mr. Christopher E. Goldthwait
 Mr. Thomas Graham, Jr.
 Mr. Paul Grant
 Mr. Allen H. and Mrs. Gabriela M. Gray
 Mr. Bradford Gray
 Mr. John T. Hagenbucher, Jr.
 Ms. Courtney S. Hagner

Mr. and Mrs. Christopher B. Hanback
 Mr. Dale S. Harding
 Mr. Douglas G. and Sondra Hartley*
 Mrs. Anita Ashford Harvey
 Mrs. Monica Harwood
 Mr. Dale K. Haworth and Mrs. Karen F. Beall
 Mrs. Eleanor Frank Hazard
 Mrs. Maurice K. Heartfield, III
 Mr. Paul M. Heid
 Mr. Richard and Mrs. Amy Henthorn
 Mr. and Mrs. Richard J. Higgins
 Mr. Saunders Cook Hillyer
 Mr. James and Virginia Hines
 Mr. John S. Hoff
 Mr. and Mrs. Paul S. Hoff
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Holland
 Ms. Vita Hollander
 Mrs. Gail Holle
 Mr. Richard Hollerith, Jr.
 Ms. Sherrill M. Houghton
 Mrs. Susan M. and Mr. Richard W. Huffman
 Mr. John Peters Irelan
 Ms. Kate Irvin
 Rev. Fielder and Mrs. Gretchen Israel, Jr.
 Mr. David J. and Mrs. Darla P. Jackson
 Mr. and Mrs. Mark R. Joelson
 Mr. H. Lamar Johnson
 Mr. Neal Johnson
 Ms. Sandia J. Johnston
 Mr. Gregg K. Jones
 Mr. John N. Jones*
 Mrs. Margery B. Jones
 Mr. Paul S. Jones
 Mr. Ted J. Just
 Mr. Albert Kamen
 Mrs. Sheila S. Kautt
 Ms. Donna Kelly
 Mr. Martin T. and Mrs. Lynette Kelly
 Mrs. Geraldine Kendall*
 Mr. and Mrs. David Kenney
 Ms. Catherine P. Kerkam
 Mr. James G. Kerkam
 Mr. and Mrs. Roger Kirk

Contributors to Oak Hill *continued*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| Ms. Melanie Kobos | Mr. Richard C. Morrissey | Mr. Dan M. Remick | Mr. James and Mrs. Barbara Smullen |
| Dr. Marion Koerper-Blumberg | Mr. James I. Mundy | Mr. Lawrence Rimmel | Major John F. Snyder (Ret.) |
| Dr. Michelle A. Krowl | Mr. Gordon & Mrs. Patricia Munson | Mr. Kenneth L. Rhodes | Ms. Linda J. Soldo |
| Mrs. Margaret Krull | Ms. Diane Murdock | Dr. Emily Richardson | Mr. and Mrs. Clarence D. Sproul |
| Ms. Suzanne Kuser | Mr. and Mrs. Terence R. Murphy | Mr. John Richardson | Mr. Dwane Starlin |
| Ms. Heather Larrison | Ms. Joan Nelson | Mr. Jeff Riley* | Honorable and Mrs. John M. Steadman |
| Ms. Nancy Lasater* | Ms. Anne Neuhauser | Mr. and Mrs. Robert R. Rix | Mr. George S. Steele, Jr. |
| Mrs. Annette G. Lasley | Mr. David and Mrs. Nancy Nicholas | Ms. Cheryl Roberts | Mrs. Lina A. Steele |
| Mr. Henry B. and Mrs. Marjorie C. Latimer | Mrs. Sheila Farr Nielsen | Mrs. J. Jill Roessner | Mr. James E. Steen |
| Mrs. Elizabeth J. Lawson | Ms. Vivica Novak | Mr. Mike and Mrs. Judy Rollins | Ms. Anne Stone |
| Ms. Micki Leder | Mr. and Mrs. Michael J. O'Brien | Mr. Marcus D. Rosenbaum and Ms. Lyn Ingersoll | Ms. Sara Stone-Psihas |
| Mrs. Ellen S. Lee | Mr. and Mrs. Michael D. Oconnor | Ms. Colleen Rosso | Mrs. Constance Weaver Strachan |
| Mrs. Lilly Stone Lievsay | Ms. Hilary O'Hara | Mrs. Emily T. Rowan | Mrs. Linda A. Strachan* |
| Dr. and Mrs. Earl W. Lindveit | Cornelius O'Farrell | Mr. Patricia R. Rudy | Mr. Albert and Mrs. Emily Byron Sturtevant |
| Mr. John and Mrs. Ann Hume Loikow | Ms. Ellena O'Toole* | Mr. Harold S. Russell | Ms. Sherrie Sykes |
| Mr. Donald C. and Mrs. Judith C. Lokerson | Ms. Louise C. Oertly | Mr. Don and Mrs. Anne Rutherford | Ms. Cynthia J. Taylor* |
| Dr. Peggy Lomax | Mr. and Mrs. Alexander W. Oliver, IV | Mrs. Arden Ruttenberg | Ms. Georgeanne T. Thanos |
| Mr. James Rowland Lowe, Jr. | Mr. Charles G. Oliver | Mr. and Mrs. Paul M. Ryscavage | Mr. G. Richard Thompson |
| Ms. Staci Lowell | Mrs. Lucy I. Oliver | Mr. Edward D. Salt | Ms. Margaret Thompson |
| Ms. Danielle M. Lucca | Mr. Charles and Mrs. Anne Marie Openchowski | Mr. Richard and Mrs. Leslie Saltsman | Ms. Patricia Thomson |
| Ms. Nancy Garnett Ludewig | Mr. Joel and Mrs. Florence Orosz** | Mr. and Mrs. Charles M. Saltzman | Mr. William Thomson, III |
| Mr. Hal Mackin | Mr. Donald R. and Mrs. Ann V. Parfer** | Ms. Frances Jean Santucci* | Mrs. Marylee H. Tinsley |
| Ms. Margaret MacLeod | Mr. Richard P. Parry | Mr. John A. and Susan Sargent | Mr. Bardyl R. Tirana |
| Ms. Carolyn M. MacMillan | Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Pate | Mr. Stephen Sattler and Reverend | Mr. Dane Towell |
| Mr. and Mrs. C. K. Mallory, III | Mr. David M. and Mrs. Margareta C. Paul | Mr. William W. Scales | Ms. Robyn K. Trower |
| Mr. Ricard C. and Mrs. Penelope B. Marshall | Mr. and Mrs. Dennis I. Paul | Mrs. Elizabeth Kopper Schollaert | Mr. T. Tirana and Mrs. D. Marcil |
| Mrs. Patricia Noble Mason* | Mrs. Loraine G. Percy | Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Schultz | Mr. Yoshine Uchimura |
| Ms. Harriet C. Mathews | Mr. and Mrs. Roger D. Percy | Ms. Joan T. Secrest | Mr. David G. Unger |
| Mr. Charles B. Mathias | Mr. and Mrs. Alton W. Peters | Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Lee Shanks, Jr.* | Mr. William C. Veale |
| Mrs. Rudine Davidson McCluan* | Dr. and Mrs. Michael J. Petite | Mr. and Mrs. Charles Shawver | Ms. Ann Bradley Vehslage |
| Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. McGee | Mr. David M. Petrou | Mrs. Mary Lee Giblon Sheahan | Mr. Richard E. Verville |
| Mr. and Mrs. William McKee | Mr. Guy Picciotto | Mr. and Mrs. Clyde S. Shippe | Mr. George I. Wagner |
| Mr. and Mrs. Bruce B. McNair* | Ms. Margaret J. Poore* | Major and Mrs. Francis D. Shoemaker | Mr. Robert A. and Mrs. Katherine J. Walde* |
| Mrs. Patricia D. McPherson* | Dr. Michael T. Pope* | Mr. John H. Simonds, Jr. | Mr. William L. Walde |
| Ms. Sheila Meehan | Mr. and Mrs. William D. Porter | Captain Thomas and Mrs. Mary Sisson | Mr. Dave Walsh |
| Mrs. Deborah and Mr. Raymond Mello | Mrs. Ella S. Pozell | Mr. Albert H. Small | Mrs. Eloise A. Walsh |
| Mr. and Mrs. Thomas C. Melo | Ms. Bobbye Pratt | Mr. Dorsey B. Smith | Dr. and Mrs. Henry F. Walter |
| Mr. Mike Mendoza | Mrs. Mary Jane Puckett | Mr. and Mrs. Hedrick L. Smith | Ms. Margaret G. Warner |
| Mr. Christopher S. Miasnik | Mr. Anthony C. and Mrs. Susan L. Quainton | Mr. Hunter Smith | Mr. Scott Wayne |
| Mrs. Bette Jane and Mr. W. Dale Middleton* | Ms. Brennan Rash | Mrs. Rebecca Smoot | Mr. George W. Weaver |
| Mrs. Sylvia Modelski | Col. Don R. and Mrs. Edith Ray | | Mrs. Katharine Watkins Webb |
| Mr. Clifford T. and Mrs. Nancy Mooney | Mrs. Ioana Razi | | Mr. and Mrs. Edward L. Weidenfeld |
| Ms. Mindy Moretti | | | Mrs. Mary E. Weinmann |
| | | | Mr. Daniel Pollitt and Mrs. Linda Weisel |
| | | | Mrs. Linda Weisle |
| | | | Mr. George C. Werth |
| | | | Mr. Chandler S. Wiegand |

Contributors to Oak Hill *continued*

Dr. William F. Willoughby
Mr. Dudley and Mrs.
Jennifer Winthrop
Mrs. Margaret K. Wisdom
Mr. Charles R. and Mrs.
Anne Woodhams
Mrs. Rosalie B. Wornham
Ms. Marilyn Worseldine
Mr. Robert R. and Mrs.
Elaine H. Zecher
Ms. Rebecca Zvoleff

**Gifts in Memory of*

The Robert N. Alfandre
Foundation-In memory of
Priscilla Alfandre
Mr. and Mrs. Richard P.
Armes- In memory of
Charles Armes
Mr. Laurence V. Baldwin- In
memory of Leo A. and
Gertrude Jane Codd
Dr. Catherine N. Ball-In
memory of John Marbury
Mrs. Mary T. Bennett-In
memory of the Tibbets
Family and Joshua
Bennett
Ms. Sigrid Block-In memory
of Loreliese Block
Mrs. Elizabeth Bonner-In
memry of Mr. and Mrs.
Nicholas Worthington
Philip (Cynthia Owen
Philip, Mr. and Mrs. John
Van Ness Philip (Helen
Scott Philip)
Mr. Christopher L. Brown-In
memory of Dr. David S.
Brown
Mrs. Margaret Cantlin-Kern-
In memory of John W.
Kern, III

Mr. Michael J. Carow-In
memory of Ruth and Rick
Carow
Msgt. John R. and Mrs.
Hisae Coon-In memory of
Frank W. Coon
Mr. German P. Culver, Jr.-In
memory of the Randall/
Elliott Family
Mr. and Mrs. Jutta G.
Dannemann-In Memory
of Werner Dannemann
The Davis Family, LLC – In
memory of Frank Elwood
and Eleanor Grunwell
Davis
Mr. Andrew H. Diem-In
memory of Frances Swift
Diem
Mr. Michael and Mrs. Lisa
Doyle-In memory of
Maurice A. Hess, Jr.
Ms. Anne K. DuVivier- In
memory of Paul and
Margaret DuVivier
Mr. and Mrs. George W.
Ford, II- In memory of
Eleanor Johnston Ford
Mr. Whit and Mrs. Amy
Ford- In memory of James
M. Johnston, Eleanor R.
Johnston and Eleanor
Johnston Ford
Ms. Mary Ann Foster-In
memory Carl Kasell
Dr. Jonathan F. Galloway-In
memory of Eileene and
George Galloway
Mr. and Mrs. Charles S.
Gardner-In memory of
Elizabeth, Sarah and
David Gardner
Mrs. Shiva Ghafoorian-In
memory of Mohammad
Ghafoorian

Mr. Douglas G. and Sondra
Hartley-In memory of
Elizabeth Hartley Rose
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Israel-
In memory Fielder and
Margaret Israel
Mr. John N. Jones-In memo-
ry of Ellis and Lucille
Jones
Mrs. Geraldine Kendall-In
memory of Dwight
Kendall
Ms. Nancy Lasater- In mem-
ory of the Pimper Family
Mrs. Patricia Noble Mason-
In memory of Elizabeth
"Betsy" Rea
Mrs. Rudine Davidson
McCluan-In memory of
Bernard Grant Davidson
Mr. and Mrs. Bruce B.
McNair- In memory of
George Frederick McNair
Mrs. Patricia D. McPherson-
In memory Harry C.
McPherson
Mrs. Bette Jane and Mr. W.
Dale Middleton-In memo-
ry of Martin Lee Luchs
Ms. Ellena O'Toole-In mem-
ory of John O'Toole
Ms. Margaret J. Poore- In
memory of Dorothy P.
Henning
Dr. Michael T. Pope- In
memory of Ann and
Gregory Pope
Mr. Jeff Riley-In memory
Berley Jo Riley
Ms. Frances Jean Santucci-
In memory of John and
Helen Ash
Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Lee
Shanks, Jr.-In memory of
The Shanks Family

Mrs. Linda A. Strachan- In
memory of Robert
Wallace Strachan
Ms. Cynthia J. Taylor-In
memory of the Dudley
Family
Mr. Robert A. and Mrs.
Katherine J. Walde-In
memory of Ruth Lightfoot
Ms. Peggy M. Wood- In
memory of Dr. Catherine
deNerville

***Gifts in Honor of*

Ms. Susan Fall-In honor of
Clift Seferlis
Mr. Joel and Mrs. Florence
Orosz-In honor of Clift
Seferlis
Mr. Donald R. and Mrs.
Ann V. Parfet-In honor of
Clift Seferlis

We have worked hard to ensure the accuracy of our donor listing. If we have inadvertently misspelled or omitted your name, we apologize and hope you will inform us by call Lois Brown, Director of Development and Administration at 202-337-2835 or emailing her at loisbrown@oakhillcemeterydc.org. We will make the correction in our data base, and web site, and alin the next edition of our newsletter. Thank you for your generous support.

Recent Foundation Grants

As a result of our application, in December, 2018, the OHC Historic Preservation Foundation received a \$10,000 grant from an anonymous foundation.

We also received 8 additional grants from other foundations in 2018 as reported on the donor list. These unrestricted grants will help to fund the efforts we make as directed by our Strategic Plan.

THANK YOU



New Partnership with DC By Foot

We are excited to announce that we have a new partnership with DC By Foot tour guides. If you live in DC, you may have seen these friendly tour guides dressed in orange coats, guiding visitors and locals throughout our city. DC By Foot are tours not to be missed! Their group started in 2007 and they have over 57 years of combined experience! They were ranked number 1 for “Tours in Washington DC” on TripAdvisor. Starting summer 2019 DC By Foot tour guides will be adding Oak Hill Cemetery to their tour

calendars. Over the next few months, we will be adding information to our website about public tours. These tours will give you a deeper appreciation for Oak Hill Cemetery and its historic significance. In the meantime, if you are interested in a private tour, please contact our office. You can start to follow these guides on Instagram @freetoursbyfoot and @topthingstodoc!

Grounds Manager Report

I'd like to take this moment, before spring takes off and carries us all along with it, to introduce myself. I've been lucky enough to meet some of you already, the many of the friends of Oak Hill, but I just want to take a moment to introduce myself officially. I'm the new grounds manager here at Oak Hill Cemetery. I started almost exactly a year ago today, so I feel like this introduction is somewhat overdue. In my defense, I've been very busy trying to understand and learn the operation here.

Our goal here on the landscape team is to have every monument upright, level, preserved, and secure on good foundations; all of the grass green, as well as ecologically healthy with weeds at a tolerable level; all paths, walls, and hardscapes repaired and maintained; trees and shrubs healthy and properly pruned; garden beds well planted and maintained; slopes, drainage, and erosion controlled; wild areas cleaned up, planted, and restored to a healthy, low input

ecosystem; to have the cemetery safe for visitors and staff; to keep every employee happy, healthy, and safe; to repair and replace any fencing and other physical plant assets as needed; to keep all equipment maintained and in good working order, with all work, storage, and staging areas neat, clean, and organized; to have every lot holders' plot in good order, with no bare soil or low; to create a documented maintenance and restoration plan for each area of the cemetery, including establishing a tree pruning and replacement plan.

I'm very proud and humbled to work with the dedicated and gifted people in service here at Oak Hill Cemetery. They and their predecessors are the reason that these somewhat ancient grounds are in as good a shape as they are, while other cemeteries may not be. We're attempting to resist time and gravity here, two of the most powerful, inexorable, and fundamental forces in the universe. One of my favorite garden writers, the Washington Post's Henry

(continued on page 14)

Grounds Manager Report (continued from page 13)

Mitchell, wrote that the natural condition of the garden is one of disaster: either flood or drought, cold snap or heat wave. Plant something, it looks beautiful; next day the deer or the rabbits or insects eat everything down to little nubs, or hurricane happens, or rain for three weeks, or no rain for months—whatever disaster nature might bring. Nature is beautiful and powerful. Gardeners must persist in the face of impossible odds, totally outmatched by the grandeur and power of nature.

Here is a little about myself and how I came to be here. My love of the art and science of horticulture and landscapes started with my first garden after I read Henry David Thoreau write about his vegetable garden in Walden. Sure, my mother was a keen gardener, but of course I never paid any attention. Until a chance garden walk of the private gardens in my beautiful neighborhood in Baltimore, I don't think I had ever really noticed a flower. On that garden walk, I met Shirley and Patricia, two keen plantswomen and gifted gardeners who lived on either side of the little neighborhood near Johns Hopkins University, a neighborhood much like Georgetown. They took me under their wings and shared their knowledge and gifts with me. They encouraged me in my education, leading to an almost 20 year course of study as a journeyman, studying great landscapes.

During my extended apprenticeship, I've

worked at Longwood Gardens, been a Master Gardener, worked at a perennials nursery, and worked in commercial and residential landscape design, installation, and maintenance. I lived and worked in England for a year and a half, selling and designing natural and engineered stonescapes. During my time in England, I availed myself of the opportunity of living in the center of the country by visiting many great historic landscapes, gaining an intimate understanding of the history of landscaping. I've even travelled to Japan, and spent three months studying gardens that are more than 500 years old, trying to understand great landscapes. I have a great love for the kind of landscape that Oak Hill is—the Garden Cemetery.

The team now assembled here at Oak Hill has done some great work already, and much more is left to do. Our ideal is to have the entire grounds tucked in and “picture perfect”. Oak Hill is a unique place, a little jewel-box here in the city, a place of timeless beauty and solace, envisioned and brought to life by the foresight of our founder, William Corcoran in 1849. Again, I am privileged, honored, humbled, and proud to be even a small part of the history here at The Oak Hill Cemetery, to serve in the sacred duty of caring for this landscape.



Send US Your Email Address!

To aid us in communicating about Oak Hill news and events, we would appreciate it if you would send us your email address.

Please send it to loisbrown@oakhillcemeterydc.org.

Thank You!

DOG DAY RETURNS!!



This is FUN!

Last October we had a first for Oak Hill Cemetery. Dog Day 2018 was the first time the cemetery was opened to dogs and their owners. Vinny Jackson (the resident Aussie) hosted nearly 100 dogs from the neighborhood on a Saturday. The dogs and their owners had a great time being in Oak Hill for the first time. The response was very positive and a significant amount of donations were collected. It was a success from every perspective!

Responding to the many positive comments, we are announcing another

SPRING DOG DAY FOR 2019 – March 30, from 8AM to 1PM. All dogs are welcome, leashes encouraged, and of course donations are welcome. Dogs receive treats, water, and a commemorative collar tag.

(Watch for a Fall Dog Day for 2019 later this year!)

Oak Hill Cemetery Historic Preservation Foundation presents...

Spring Dog Day 2019



March 30, 2019 8am - 1pm
Bring your pups for a leisurely walk around Oak Hill Cemetery.
Donations are welcome.

RAIN OR SHINE
Oak Hill Cemetery 3001 R Street NW • 202-337-2835

PRESENTED BY THE OAK HILL CEMETERY HISTORIC PRESERVATION
FOUNDATION A 501 c (3) organization

News from Oak Hill

Pre-Sort
First Class
US Postage
PAID
Suburban MD 208
Permit #1

The NEWSLETTER of the OAK HILL CEMETERY

3001 R Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20007-2923
Telephone: 202 337-2835
Fax: 202 337-6481
www.oakhillcemeterydc.org

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Moving? Please send us a
change of address.

